

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of Adjudication and Hearings



OFFICE ORDER NO.: 2000-12

SUBJECT: Use of Recording and Other Electronic Devices in the Vicinity of Administrative Hearings

Pursuant to Reorganization Plan No. 4 of 1996, D.C. Code § 6-2701 et seq., Mayor's Order No. 97-42, effective January 13, 1997, Mayor's Order No. 99-68, effective April 28, 1999, Department of Health Organizational Order No. 24, effective December 17, 1999, and all other applicable law, it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

1. All hearings and other proceedings are to be recorded, electronically and/or stenographically, in a manner consistent with the creation of a reliable and comprehensible record. The product of such recordation is the only official record of a proceeding before the Office of Adjudication and Hearings.
2. The use of cellular phones, pagers and similar devices that emit noise and/or are capable of wireless transmission or reception shall not be permitted in hearing rooms during a proceeding, except that such devices are permitted if they can be set in a non-audible mode and are not used for transmission during a proceeding.
3. Any organization, group, or individual may possess or use drawing or sketching equipment in a hearing room so long as the possession or use of such equipment does not interfere with the rights of the parties to a fair hearing, does not interfere with the conduct of a proceeding, and where such use is not precluded by statute, regulation, or order.
4. Broadcasting, videotaping, photographing, or audio recording by any organization, group, or individual is not permitted in hearing rooms, witness rooms, waiting rooms, reception areas, or any other rooms or areas regularly utilized by OAH for administrative court operations.
5. The quantity and type of equipment permitted under this Order is subject to control by the presiding administrative judge and the Chief Administrative Law Judge, who shall exercise their discretion to promote the interests of justice and sound judicial administration.
6. For purposes of this Order, a hearing or proceeding is any matter in which an administrative judge or the Chief Administrative Law Judge presides.
7. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to limit the authority of the Chief Administrative Law Judge to authorize videotaping, photographing, or audio recording of a proceeding for training purposes.

8. This Order supersedes all previous orders to the extent of any inconsistency.
9. This Order is effective immediately.

Dated July 10, 2000

PAUL KLEIN

Paul Klein
Chief Administrative Law Judge